

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the present application. The Office Action dated August 10, 2004, has been reviewed and its contents carefully reviewed. Claims 1-10 and 12-26 are currently pending in the present application with claims 6-10 and 12-26 being allowed. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the pending claims in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,671,025, issued to Ikeda et al. (hereafter "Ikeda") in view of Japanese Patent No. 200356769, issued to Maruyama et al. (hereafter "Maruyama"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because neither Ikeda nor Maruyama, analyzed alone or in any combination, teaches or suggests the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. For example, Ikeda and Maruyama fail to teach or suggest a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) color filter layer that includes, among other features, "a light-absorption layer on a substrate" as recited in independent claim 1 of the present application.

The Office Action concedes that Ikeda fails to disclose the liquid crystal display filters of a cholesteric type. Applicant submits that Ikeda also fails to teach "a light-absorption layer on a substrate". To compensate for the deficient teachings of Ikeda, the Office Action relies upon the teachings of cholesteric type liquid crystal display filters 111 illustrated in Maruyama. Applicant further submits that even if Ikeda were modified by the teachings of Maruyama, which Applicant does not concede there is proper motivation to do, the resulting device would not have the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. Specifically, Maruyama discloses a liquid crystal panel including cholesteric filters 111GB, 111RB and 111RG on glass substrate 107; however, the liquid crystal panel does not include "a light -

absorption layer on a substrate” as recited in independent claim 1. According, Maruyama fails to remedy the deficiencies of Ikeda.

Because neither Ikeda nor Maruyama teaches at least the above feature of independent claim 1, claim 1 and its dependent claim 2 are allowable over any combination of Ikeda and Maruyama.

Independent claims 3, 4 and 5 are similarly directed to a cholesteric liquid crystal (CLC) that includes, among other features, “a light-absorption layer on a substrate”. As discussed above, no combination of Ikeda and Maruyama teaches or suggests at least “a light-absorption layer on substrate” as recited in independent claims 3, 4 and 5 of the present application. Accordingly, claims 3, 4 and 5 are allowable over Ikeda and Maruyama.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5 are respectfully requested.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

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